A.—(*a*) The reasons, as already stated in my answer to a supplemental question asked by the hon. Member, are more or less personal to the Crown Prosecutor.

(*b*) The Government accepted the reasons and therefore do not propose to take any action.

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I ask the hon. Member to kindly state whether it is a fact that the Crown Prosecutor voluntarily declined to appear and conduct the Imperial Bank Fraud Case in the Presidency Magistrate's Court or whether negotiations went on between him and the Government either private or informal ? "

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Mr. President, Sir, in answer to a series of 19 questions on this subject put by the hon. Member for the University the Government has sent an answer that the Government do not propose to answer just now but propose to issue a communiqué after the proceedings are terminated."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" I have not received it."

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" I take it that it will be laid on the table to-morrow or day after."

Irrigation.

Amount spent on new irrigation schemes in certain districts.

83 *Q.*—Diwan Bahadur P. KESAVA PILLAI : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state the amount spent on new irrigation schemes during the last fifty years in the districts of Anantapur, Bellary, Kurnool and Cuddapah, respectively ?

A.—The amount spent up to March 1923 on schemes for which capital account is kept is over $2\frac{1}{2}$ crores. Figures of expenditure incurred on new schemes for which this account is not kept are not available.

Diwan Bahadur P. KESAVA PILLAI :—" May I know if the hon. Member could not give statistics for each district ? "

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" It is quite easy and it will be done."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Does it include the Kurnool-Cuddapah canal ? "

The hon. Mr. C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Yes."

The irrigation sources of the Madura and Ramnad districts.

84 *Q.*—Rao Bahadur A. M. MURUGAPPA CHETTIYAR : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have made any investigation to develop the irrigation resources of the Madura and Ramnad districts, and if so, to place on the table the report of such investigation ; and

(*b*) whether the Government propose to undertake any irrigation project in the above two districts in the near future ?

[5th February 1924

A.—(a) The only important irrigation system in the tract is the Periyar system. Proposals for extension of irrigation under the system to the full irrigable area are under consideration of the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

A project known as the Purandalar project, Palni taluk, Madura district, for impounding the flood waters of the Purandalar and Palar was investigated some years back. As the financial prospects of the scheme were very unfavourable, it was decided in 1909 that it should be included in the famine relief programme of the district as an additional item.

An estimate for improving the Elandrakondam tank and supply channel, Srivilliputtur taluk, Ramnad district, is being prepared by the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

There will be no advantage in placing the papers relating to these works at this stage on the Council table.

(b) There are no large irrigation projects in Madura and Ramnad districts likely to be undertaken in the course of the next few years; but the Chief Engineer will be prepared to discuss with hon. Members the prospects and feasibility of any schemes which may be suggested by them.

Capacity of the Periyar reservoir.

85 Q.—Rao Bahadur A. M. MURUGAPPA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) the capacity of the Periyar reservoir and the area irrigated by the Periyar project;

(b) whether the capacity of the project could be increased and the project extended to the Thiruppur taluk of the Ramnad district; and

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to take up the project in the near future?

A.—(a) The capacity of the Periyar reservoir is 9,605 million cubic feet. The area irrigated in fasli 1332 is 130,799 acres against the irrigable area of about 143,000 acres under the system.

(b) & (c) The possibility of securing adequate supply for the full irrigable area under the system is under consideration and Government do not consider it possible to increase the capacity of the reservoir, and thereby to extend irrigation to Ramnad district.

The Cauvery reservoir project.

86 Q.—Rao Bahadur A. M. MURUGAPPA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government propose to work out the Cauvery reservoir project in the immediate future, and if so, when; and

(b) whether the Government have examined the possibility of extending the project to the eastern portion of the Ramnad district?

A.—(a) Attention is invited to the answer to question No. 7 given at the meeting of the 10th December 1923 of the present session and it cannot be said when the project will be taken up for execution.